



## DRAFT PROGRAMME

### DAY 1: THURSDAY 26 MARCH

#### OPENING SESSION: WELCOME TO THE KAROO

**8.30– 9. 30** Chair: Prof Tienie Crous, Dean, Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of the Free State

Welcoming message and blessing on the conference: Rev Nancy Charton

Opening and Welcome: **Mr Daantjie Japhta**, Mayor of Camdeboo Local Municipality

**Ms Kira-Leigh Kuhnert**, Open Society Foundation

**Ms Sue van der Merwe**: Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and "political champion" of the Central Karoo District.

#### SESSION 1: THE KAROO AS A REGION

**9.30-10.30** Chair: Prof Lucius Botes, Centre for Development Support, University of the Free State

**Dr Bruce Rubidge**, Wits University, and author of *Earth and Life: "The Karoo as a unique geological site: The economic potential of deep history"*

**Dr Sue Milton**, Renu-Karoo cc: *"Creating a sustainable business environment: Linking ecology and economic development"*

**10.30** **TEA/COFFEE**

**11.00-12.30** **Dr Jaco Mostert**, Department of Economic Affairs, Northern Cape: *"Towards a new spatial strategy for the Karoo"*

**Prof Doreen Atkinson**, University of the Free State: *"Promoting cross-border collaboration in the Karoo"*.

**Dr Anton de Wit**, Nelson Mandela Metro University, *"The Quality of Life: measurement and application in a Karoo context"*

**Dr Daan Toerien**, University of the Free State: *"Promoting rural development in the Karoo – new paradigms in economic thinking"*.

**12.30-1.30 LUNCH**

## **SESSION 2: AGRICULTURE IN THE KAROO**

**1.30 – 2.30** Chair: Dr Dirk Troskie, Department of Agriculture, Western Cape Province

**Prof Johann Kirsten**, University of Pretoria: "The images of the Karoo: Intellectual property or marketing opportunity?"

**Dr Sue Taylor**, University of the Free State: "*Niche products in the Karoo: Hoodia and olives*"

**Mr Danie Jordaan**, University of Pretoria: "*World-wide agricultural branding: The case of the South African mohair industry*"

**2.15-3.00** Panel discussion: Emergent Farmers

**Mr Ernst Idsardi**, University of the Free State, "*Supporting emergent farmers and providing post-settlement support: What have we learnt?*"

**Mr Aggrey Mahanjane**: Emergent Red Meat Producers Organisation

**Dr Amie Aucamp**: The National Wool Growers' Association

**COFFEE/TEA/FRUIT JUICE BREAK**

## **SESSION 3 (PARALLEL SESSION): NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE KAROO**

**3.30 – 4.30** Chair: Mr Duma Magxwaliso, Cacadu District Municipality

**Dr Danny Titus**, ATKV: "*Building human, cultural and social capital for the development of the Karoo*"

**Mr Mark Wells**, People's Power Africa: "*Biogas technology for energy and nutrient beneficiation*"

**Ms Melissa Wahl**, Solien Energy Solutions cc: "*Wind and solar energy alternatives for the Karoo*"

**4.30-5.00** Panel discussion: "*The Karoo as a manufacturing destination*"

Chair: **Prof Tienie Crous**, Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of the Free State

Participants:

- **Mr Charles Featherstonehaugh** (Cradock)
- **Mr Johan van Jaarsveld** (Graaff-Reinet)
- **Ms Riana van der Ahee** (Murraysburg)



## **SESSION 4 (PARALLEL SESSION): MARKETING KAROO LAMB**

**VENUE: RUPERT THEATRE**

3.30-5.00 **Prof Johann Kirsten and colleagues**, University of Pretoria: Research on Karoo Lamb as a Geographic Indicator

Brief input: The example of Karoo Mohair

Facilitated discussion

## **DAY 2: FRIDAY 27 MARCH**

### **SESSION 5: NEW DIRECTIONS FOR TOURISM IN THE KAROO**

**8.00-10.30** Chair: **Dr Roy Stauth**, Camdeboo Publicity Association

**Dr Judy Maguire**, Wits University and Prince Albert Heritage Association: *"Understanding the heritage of the Karoo as a tourism asset"* .

**Mr Peter Myles**, Nelson Mandela Metro University, *"Towards developing desert tourism in South Africa"*

**Mr Mark Ingle**, University of the Free State: *"Space Tourism and its Implications for Tourism in the Great Karoo"*

**Mr Al Soko**, Department of Roads and Transport, Eastern Cape: *"Transport as a catalyst for tourism and socio-economic development"*.

**Mr Darryl Davids**, Department of Afrikaans, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg: *"Literary tourism in the Karoo"*.

Discussion

**10.15** **TEA/COFFEE**



# SESSION 6: BROADENING THE ECONOMIC BASE OF THE KAROO

11.45-12.45 Chair: Ms Judy Abrahams, Industrial Development Corporation

**Ms Deidre van Rooyen**, University of the Free State: *"Uranium in the Karoo: What would be the implications for local economies in the Karoo?"*

**Mr Emil Nothnagel**, Urban Dynamics: *"The creation of business hubs: A new approach to LED"*

**Dr Bernie Fanaroff**, Square Kilometer Array: *"Deep space: The potential impact of scientific investments on the Karoo"*, and **Ms Tracy Cheetham**: *On the Road to Delivery: Infrastructure Establishment for MeerKAT and its contribution to the Karoo*

**Dr Stef Coetzee**, Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut: *"Chambers of Business in Karoo towns: Fulfilling their unexplored potential"*

Discussion

## CLOSING SESSION: THE WAY FORWARD

12.45-1.15 Chair: Prof Lucius Botes

**Dr Ken Johnson**, Desert Knowledge Australia: *"How does one organise a large desert region?: The Outback experience"*.

Vote of Thanks: Prof Doreen Atkinson

Closing Address: The MEC for Agriculture, Eastern Cape Provincial Government, **Mr Gugile Nkwinti**: *"Whither the Karoo? Prospects for economic growth and development"*.

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**CLOSURE: 1.15 PM**

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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DEPARTEMENT VAN EKONOMIESE ONTWIKKELING & TOERISME

ISEBE LOPHUHLISO LWEZOQOQOSHO NEZOKHENKETHO



The Karoo Conference and Trade Fair supports clean, renewable energy. Our Conference has purchased Transferable Renewable Energy Certificates (TRECs), sponsored by Mount Camdeboo Game Reserve, Graaff-Reinet.

